Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 MC-02

IGA-02 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 AID-05 /091 W 064529

O R 191605Z JUL 76 FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2738 INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN AMEMBASSY THE HAUGE

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0633

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, NS, US

SUBJ: SURINAM AND US WEAPONS

1. THE APRIL 14, 1976, PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION THAT ADDED SURINAM TO THE LIST OF COUNTRIES ELIGIBLE FOR FMS, DULY PUBLISHED IN WASHINGTON AND INTENDED SIMPLY TO REGULARIZE THE TURNOVER FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO SURINAM OF A SMALL AMOUNT OF OUTDATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT, HAS NOW "LEAKED" IN THE SURINAM PRESS AS THE RESULT OF A REPORTED RADIO BROADCAST IN HOLLAND BY ONE JAN VAN DER PUTTEN. THIS FOLLOWS PREVIOUS SIMILAR "LEAK" IN GUYANA AND ELSEWHERE ALLEGING THAT THE PROCESS WAS ACTUALLY A SECRET USGOVERNMENT DECISION TO "ARM" SURINAM, AND THAT IS THE WAY IT HAS NOW BEEN PLAYED IN THE PRESS HERE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS, VAN DER PUTTEN CLAIMED THAT PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM OF GUYANA SEES THE SUPPLY OF WEAPONS TO SURINAM AS PART OF A WIDER STRATEGY DESIGNED TO OVERTHROW HIS GOVERNMENT, INVOLVING BRAZIL, VENEZUELA AND SURINAM. IN AN EDITORIAL REACTION, THE NEWSPAPER VRIJE STEM WARNS UNCLASSIFIED

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SURINAM AGAINST INVOLVEMENT IN ANY "AMERICAN ADVENTURE AGAINST

GUYANA" AND SAYS THAT SURINAM WOULD BE THE FIRST VICTIM OF ANY COOPERATION WITH THE "ULTRA-RIGHTIST" GOVERNMENTS OF BRAZIL AND THE US AIMED AT CAUSING THE DOWNFALL OF THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT OF NEIGHBORING GUYANA.

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY SALES

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